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Although dated 1914, strangely enough discussion of modern exploration and discovery is touched upon only in the concluding sentence of the book. "Stein and Sven Hedin did similar work in Asia, and Parry, Franklin, Nansen, Amundsen and Peary explored in the Arctic, and Ross, Bruce, Shackleton, Scott, Charcot, and Amundsen in Antarctica, all of them working to improve man's knowledge of Geography." The difficulty of writing upon so vast a topic in so limited a space becomes apparent in the abruptness with which some topics are introduced or left. However, the fresh style plus the seemingly well-selected points retain the interest of the reader.

A goodly distribution of the customary English black-and-white maps helps to illuminate the text.  
EUGENE VAN CLEEF.

#### ANTHROPOGEOGRAPHY

**Heredity and Environment in the Development of Men.** By Edwin Grant Conklin. (Norman W. Harris Lectures for 1914 at Northwestern University.) xiv and 533 pp. Ills., index. Princeton University Press, Princeton, 1915. \$2. 8½ x 6.

The attempt is to present the results of the later studies of heredity to general audiences. The origin of the individual and the possibility of directing his development is regarded as the most important topic for men to consider; for no scheme of social progress can be so basal and no results so permanent as those which are established in the blood of the race.

In chapters on the "Facts and Factors of Development" and "The Cellular Basis," the author translates for the ordinary reader the terminology and leading principles of present-day biology. The phenomena of inheritance are then treated and it is recognized that among men, experimentation is difficult and it is often impossible to separate the results of heredity from those of environment. Contrasted with chemical compounds, which are constant, every organic individual is unique, such individuality being ascribed to mixture of ancestral character, the appearance of mutations (*de Vries*) and fluctuations due to environment.

The chapter on "Influences of Environment" invites the geographer's attention. The great problem of development is to assign just values to "nature" and "nurture," that is, to heredity and environment. Environment includes education and raises the old question of adding to stature by taking thought. Past emphasis has been on the effectiveness of environment. Modern studies, however, place overwhelming stress on heredity; species-making by controlling the environment is discounted, and belief in the omnipotence of environment has declined. Men are held to be by no means chiefly the product of environment and training. While accepting this modern placing of the emphasis, the author warns us not to go too far, or to neglect the efficiency of environment. These are sobering words, and place upon students of geography the duty of finding their own sphere, and of determining its limits. It is no sin for the geographer to cross this boundary, but he should at least know when he does it. Non-geographic readers will doubtless pay most heed to the discussion of eugenics and of genetic and ethical problems, with which the volume closes. A. P. BRIGHAM.

**Natur und Mensch.** Von M. G. Schmidt. Series: *Aus Natur und Geisteswelt*. 105 pp. Ills. B. G. Teubner, Leipzig, 1914. Mk. 1.25. 7½ x 5.

In a small volume, a most interesting and instructive review is given of the principles of anthropogeography. Every sentence is filled with solid thought and definiteness of idea. The author recognizes the independence of man relative to his environment; on the other hand he is a faithful believer in the influence of the physical earth upon all people; be this influence ever so indirect, it is a factor which cannot be brushed aside unnoticed.

The text is divided into three principal parts:— (1) Physical Dependence, (2) Community of Interests; (3) Psychical Dependence. The last part is perhaps worthy of more attention than the other parts. It is discussed under two headings: Character and Intellectual Life, the latter subdivided as fol-

lows: (a) Education; (b) Religion; (c) Poetry; (d) Art. The influence upon character of climate, mountains, coasts, islands, seas and of mere size of area (roominess) are all pointed out as potent factors. It is of interest to note that the author considers size of area to have been one of the most important influences upon the character of the North American. The facility of movement, the desire to accomplish unusual things, the apparent boundlessness of his plans both in business and politics, the joy in "making possible the impossible" and the mania for undertaking monumental works in technical fields, are all attributed to the mere bigness of the American's environment.

The discussion of the various religions of peoples as influenced by the surface conditions and the atmosphere is well worth reading closely. The effect of the elements upon the poetry of peoples is also striking. Even in Art the author finds that not only has nature exercised a controlling influence in the style in ages past but also in the spread of styles to various parts of the earth. Even to-day, when man supposedly is independent of his environment, his art and architecture seem to feel the effects of nature's presence.

EUGENE VAN CLEEF.

#### ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL GEOGRAPHY

**Wireless Telegraphy.** By C. L. Fortescue. (Cambridge Manuals.) viii and 143 pp. Ills., index. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1913. 40 cents. 6½ x 5.

The book is written by a physicist who has his subject well in hand.

The first half deals with the mechanics of wireless telegraphy, and discusses a few of the fundamental principles of physics upon which the construction of the instruments is based. The last half presents a very interesting account of the actual rôle of wireless telegraphy to-day. One chapter deals with wireless telephony. This is followed by a brief history of wireless telegraphy beginning with Maxwell's publication of a paper entitled "A Dynamical Theory of the Electromagnetic Field" read before the Royal Society (England) on Dec. 8, 1864. A short bibliography, including 5 French, 3 German and 10 English titles, completes the thesis.

The author in his preface says "A general scientific knowledge is necessary to understand the subject. This knowledge, however, may be very elementary."

EUGENE VAN CLEEF.

**Die Jute.** Ihre Industrie und volkswirtschaftliche Bedeutung. Von Richard Wolff. 147 pp. Diagrams. F. Siemenroth, Berlin, 1913. Mk. 6. 9½ x 6½.

In short space much valuable material is brought together relative to the jute industry. The principal topics are:—uses of jute; experimental cultivation of it in various regions, as in Egypt, China, Kamerun, and the United States; substitutes both natural and artificial; and the industry in general, followed by a specific study of it in India, Scotland, Germany, Austria-Hungary, France, Italy, Russia, Belgium, Sweden, Brazil, Japan and the United States. A full bibliography, a series of large graphs folded in the back of the book, and statistical tables complete the book. While technically the jute industry is eighty years old, the fiber has been utilized locally in India for centuries. India practically controls the world's supply. Experiments carried on in other countries in the hope of making them independent of India, though not always complete failures, have in general failed to accomplish their purpose.

EUGENE VAN CLEEF.

**Lumber and Its Uses.** By R. S. Kellogg. 352 pp. Ills., index. Radford Architectural Co., Chicago, Ill., 1914. \$1. 9 x 6½.

After two chapters of a general nature on the structure of wood and its physical properties, the author treats his subject in a detailed and strictly technical manner. There are chapters upon lumber grades and sizes, seasoning timber and wood preservation, and paving and flooring, all considered minutely.